

REMARKS

Claims 1, 4-9, and 12-18 are pending in this application. Claims 1 and 9 are amended herein. Claims 2, 3, 10, and 11 are cancelled herein without prejudice or disclaimer. Support for the amendments to claims 1 and 9 may be found in claims 2 and 3 and 10 and 11, respectively, as originally filed. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration is requested based on the foregoing amendment and the following remarks.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102:

Claims 1, 4-9, and 12-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Knight et al., US 5,597,631. The rejection is traversed to the extent it would apply to the claims as amended.

Claims 1 and 9 recite,

"performing modification, generation and/or division of the titles of the messages stored in said message analysis database."

Knight neither teaches, discloses, nor suggests performing modification, generation and/or division of the titles of the messages stored in said message analysis database, as recited in claims 1 and 9. Knight, rather, mentions no titles of messages at all, let alone performing modification, generation and/or division of the titles, contrary to the assertion in the Office action at paragraph 6 on page 3. As described in Knight at column 13, lines 29-40,

The user selects a message subject matter area, therefore, by depressing any one of the control buttons 312. At that time, the user is then presented in a first display area 315 with a more detailed subject matter area menu 316 consisting of options for narrowing their query, in the form of individual message query filter parameters 317, which correspond to classifications of messages that have been pre-indexed under the particular subject matter area.

Thus, since Knight relies on query filter parameters 317, which correspond to classifications of messages that have been pre-indexed under the particular subject matter area, rather than titles to identify messages, Knight would have no use for performing modification, generation and/or division of the titles of the messages stored in said message analysis database, as recited in claims 1 and 9, as well. Claims 1 and 9 are submitted to be allowable. Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1 and 9 are earnestly solicited.

Claims 4-8 and 12-16 depend from claims 1 or claim 9, respectively, and add further distinguishing elements.

Claim 5, in particular, recites,

“a theme renewing part updating the themes based on a message analysis interim output, output based on the titles of the messages stored in said message analysis database and a theme part storing the themes or a keyword part storing keywords concerning the themes of a theme database.”

Knight neither teaches, discloses, nor suggests a theme renewing part updating the themes based on a message analysis interim output, output based on the titles of the messages stored in said message analysis database and a theme part storing the themes or a keyword part storing keywords concerning the themes of a theme database, as recited in claim 5.

Claim 6, in particular, recites,

“a community analyzing part referring to said community analysis rule database, and analyzing the community.”

Knight neither teaches, discloses, nor suggests a community analyzing part referring to said community analysis rule database, and analyzing the community, as recited in claim 6.

Claims 4-8 and 12-16 are thus also submitted to be allowable. Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 4-8 and 12-16 is also earnestly solicited.

Claim 17:

Claim 17 recites,

“modifying titles of the messages based on said analysis of the characteristics of the messages.”

Knight neither teaches, discloses, nor suggests modifying titles of the messages based on said analysis of the characteristics of the messages, as discussed above with respect to the rejections of claims 1 and 9. Claim 17 is thus submitted to be allowable as well, for at least those reasons discussed above with respect to the rejections of claims 1 and 9. Withdrawal of the rejection of claim 17 is earnestly solicited.

Claim 18:

Claim 18 recites,

“modifying titles of the messages based on said analysis of the characteristics of the messages.”

Knight neither teaches, discloses, nor suggests updating titles of the messages based on a result of said classifying, as discussed above with respect to the rejections of claims 1 and 9. Claim 18 is thus submitted to be allowable as well, for at least those reasons discussed above with respect to the rejections of claims 1 and 9. Withdrawal of the rejection of claim 18 is earnestly solicited.

Conclusion:

Accordingly, in view of the reasons given above, it is submitted that all of claims 1, 4-9, and 12-18 are allowable over the cited references. There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

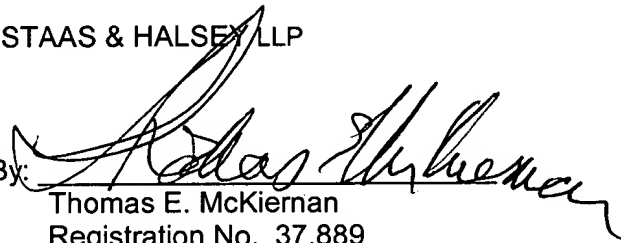
Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date:

12/5/05

By:


Thomas E. McKiernan
Registration No. 37,889

1201 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 434-1500
Facsimile: (202) 434-1501